[TFR 61-1]

INFORMATION

regarding American military fliers, who perished and were buried on the territory of the Kamchatka peninsula

1943-1945

According to a report from the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces dated 6(7)* December 1946, during the years 1943-45 nine American Army servicemen were buried at five different sites on Kamchatka. (Attachment No. 1).

A request by the American side to send a team to Kamchatka to conduct a search and exhumation of the remains was denied. The reason for the rejection was in consideration of the ban on visits by foreigners to the Far East border zone in the Kamchatka region.

Furthermore, a report dated 26 March 1947 from the Deputy Chief of the General Staff, General of the Army A.M. Antonov, indicated that it would be advisable to exhume the remains of only three of the US servicemen, of whose deaths and burials the American authorities had genuine knowledge. The American side did not have reliable information regarding the deaths of six fliers of B-25 No. 44-29148. In connection with this, it was recommended that mentioning the names of the crew members of B-25 No. 44-29148 be avoided in future negotiations with US representatives regarding the fate of deceased American fliers. (Attachment No. 2)

In accordance with decisions taken in July of 1947, the remains of Sergeant Tomas Ring, Sergeant Paval Utchek, and Corporal Meht'yu Gladek were exhumed with the aim of transferring them to the American command. (Attachment No. 3)

The burial places of the remaining six American military fliers are not precisely indicated. The only information available about their burial is that it was on the east coast of the Kamchatka peninsula.

Given that the General Staff obtained information about the deceased US servicemen from the Border Troops, information indicating the exact burial locations might be found in the Border Troops' archives.

HISTORICAL ARCHIVES AND MILITARY MEMORIAL CENTER OF THE GENERAL STAFF

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LIST

of US citizens killed in action in the war with Japan who were crew members on aircraft that made forced landings on USSR territory.

1. A US B-25 "Mitchell" aircraft made a forced landing at Elizovo airfield, Kamchatka Oblast at 2100 hrs on 11 May 1945, after being fired on by Japanese artillery located on the island of Shumshu. The aircraft's radio operator, Sergeant PAVEL UTCHEK (25 years old), died. He was buried in the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatka Rajon.

2. A US B-25J "Mitchell" aircraft No. 43-36160 made a forced landing at the Elizovo airfield, Kamchatka Oblast at 1243 hrs on 10 June 1945 after being attacked by Japanese fighters. The gunner, Corporal MET'YU M. GLADEK (20 years old), died. He was buried in the Petropavlovsk- Kamchatka Rajon.

3. A US B-25J "Mitchell" aircraft violated the State border on 10 June 1945 at 1130 hrs and was shot down by a TOF battery. The aircraft caught fire in the air and fell to earth. Six crew members died in the explosion, to include:

- Aircraft Commander, Captain EHDUARD EHRVING
- Copilot, Lieutenant Zh. NEJTON AIZER
- Navigator, Captain KHERRI LORD
- Flight engineer, Senior Sergeant FRED PENE
- Radio operator, Corporal LESLI DENTON
- Gunner, Private ROLAND EHRSNER

The corpses of the deceased were buried in a common grave in the Petropavlovsk-Kamchatka Rajon.

Head of Central Archives, Border Troops

Major General [signature] V.F. Zaporozhchenko